



Parents/Carers Survey

Autumn 2021



Your Views Count!

This document presents the results of the survey of Parent/Carer views.

The Survey was carried out in October 2021.

This Survey – and the other smaller surveys we may carry out from time to time – will help to shape the ongoing development of the school.

Thank-you to all Parents/Carers who completed our survey.

1. Overall Results of the Survey

31 Parents/Carers responded. At the time of the survey there were 43 families in the school.

		Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement	Total % who disagree
1	My child is happy at school	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
2	My child feels safe at this school	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
3	My child makes good progress at school	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
4	My child is well looked after at this school	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
5	My child is well taught at this school	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
6	My child receives appropriate homework for their age	61%	23%	13%	3%	0%	84%	16%
7	This school makes sure the pupils are well behaved	87%	13%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
8	This school deals effectively with bullying	64%	6%	0%	0%	30%	70% <i>rising to 100% if we take N/A</i>	0%
9	This school is a welcoming and pleasant place to visit	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
10	This school responds well to any concerns I raise	74%	23%	0%	0%	3%	97% but <i>rising to 100% if we take N/A</i>	0%
11	I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%	0%
12	Communication between the school and Parents/Carers is good	74%	23%	3%	0%	0%	97%	3%

Next, we will take each question in turn and add our response

2. Our Response to the survey results, question by question

1. My child is happy in school.	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	91%	9%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We are absolutely delighted that ALL of our pupils continue to be happy in at school. We know how important this is you as a Parent/Carer.

We continue to work hard to ensure that the pupils are able to thrive and flourish, that they feel safe and that lessons and other activities are enjoyable. Happy pupils are happy and productive learners!

2. My child feels safe at this school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	94%	6%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We are delighted that 100% of children feel safe. We have a range of effective systems and procedures to ensure that we are a safe school for example our Safeguarding measures, including Anti-Bullying Week, Internet Safety Days and Keeping Safe and Anti-Bullying boards, school site security. We have effective internet filtering systems and we teach the children about staying safe online.

As part of our Life Skills programme we strongly promote British Values including mutual and tolerance and encourage our pupils to be caring towards others.

3. My child makes good progress at school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We work very hard as staff to ensure that all our pupils make the best possible progress. We keep Parents/Carers informed through Parent/Teacher Consultation evenings, Target/Mini Reports sent home at the end of each Autumn half term and at the end of the Spring term and we are hoping that we start our Activity Mornings and our Come Look and Share open afternoons in the very near future.

We are always exploring options to further develop the ways we provide you with information about your child's progress.

4. My child is well looked after at this school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We have aimed to create a caring environment in school, within which all our pupils feel safe and well cared for. All of the adults in school are caring and considerate with our pupils. We are delighted that Parents/Carers have confidence in what we do in terms of ensuring their child/ren are well looked after.

5. My child is well taught at this school	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: We have worked hard to ensure that every member of staff is highly skilled and well-equipped to carry out their core role – teaching – very effectively.

Significant staff development takes place every year and when recruiting new staff, we have added to our team wisely. We are thrilled that you have recognised our success in this area and we promise you that we are determined to maintain this.

6. My child receives appropriate homework for their age	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	61%	23%	13%	3%	0%	84%

Our Response: Our aim is to provide homework which is meaningful and which links, supports and extends work the children are doing in class. Reading, spelling, sentence building and composition and learning number facts (including times tables) all feature, there are also opportunities for research and project work. The majority of Disagree/Strongly disagree are from Reception Parents/Carers. A meeting to discuss how we can move forward with this issue will be organised.

11. I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	84%	16%	0%	0%	0%	100%

Our Response: Parent/Carers are provided with Parent/Carer Evenings and /or a written report at the end of most half terms. We offer post report meetings at the end of the Summer Term. We value these consultations and try to arrange them on different days each time to accommodate as many Parents/Carers as possible. Over the past eighteen months, where possible we have offered Face2Face appointments or Zoom appointments. Target Sheets/Reports are sent home which inform Parents/Carers of their child's progress and attainment during that term and offers ideas/activities that Parents/Carers can do at home to support their child. At the end of the Summer term each pupil has an end of year report. We are hoping to reinstate our Come, Look and Share sessions: Parent/Carers come into school, with their child look at their books and we encourage the pupils to model ask the appropriate questions to further enhance Parents/Carers understanding of what they have learnt. At the beginning of each half term (normally the beginning of a new topic) Topic Flyers are sent home informing Parents/Carers of some areas to be covered and with ideas to support their child's learning at home. In addition, we are flexible and welcoming organising any additional meetings with teachers that Parents/Carers might request.

12. Communication between the School and Parents/ Carers is good	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	N/A	Total % in Agreement
	74%	23%	3%	0%	0%	97%

Our Response: Following consultation with Parents/Carers all newsletters are now sent via email (paper copies are still available on request). We use text messaging to inform/remind Parents/Carers of events or deadlines. There are Parent/Carer noticeboards in all classes and also one in the main, advising of forthcoming events and dates for the diary. We are continually trying to improve communication with Parents/Carers – if you are one of the 23% who ticked **Agree** or one of the 3% who ticked **Disagree** if you have any suggestions as to how we can improve communication please see a member of staff or if you would rather to remain anonymous please put any ideas in the **Suggestions Box** in the foyer.



Parent/Carers responses to the questions:

13. Do you think your child/ren were well supported by the school during Lockdown and with Remote Learning?

- Very well supported, the school went above and beyond to support my child. Very happy with support
- Very well supported and the school very well organised
- Children and Parents really well supported. Zoom calls should have started earlier for the children's benefit
- Really enjoyed home learning and it was a pleasure to be part of my child's education in this way. Happy with the school's support and provision
- Yes, use of zoom classes, access to items for Home Learning such as providing all the equipment needed.
- Live lessons provided and suitable resources for work outside of these lessons
- Totally agree, was well supported during Lockdown, though being able to have my child in school was so good for her and her mental well-being.
- First Lockdown, not much work on-line but second and third Lockdowns much better
- The school was brilliant, our first time on Zoom was great fun and all the children were made to feel relaxed and comfortable during learning, safety was fabulous.
- Yes – work was accessible and staff were available to speak to.
- We were happy with the work set, I think we may have benefitted more if there were more Zoom classes to help engage more.
- Yes – Good variety of work and checking up on the progress.
- Yes – understanding of individual family circumstances and offer of support was excellent.
- Zoom lessons and work packs were good but more Zoom lessons would have helped working Parents.
- The support was exemplary. The school went above and beyond to provide support and learning.
- The support was brilliant – nothing was too much trouble.
- Yes- The emails we received, the work set, we could email teachers if we couldn't understand any work, they were so helpful through Lockdown.
- Yes – the communication between the teachers via email to Parents and work laid out on the school's website was so helpful.



14. In your opinion, what are the best things about Thurlton Primary School?

- | | |
|---|--|
| • School to parent link is very strong. | Good culture and atmosphere |
| • Teachers and staff know all the pupils. | Welcoming and supportive teachers |
| • Welcoming for the new intake | Teaching and behaviour of all children |
| • It's like a small family. | Class size, friendly staff and pupils |
| • Close knit feeling, caring family feel. | Friendly environment |
| • Teachers and pupils are doing great! | Variety of After School Clubs |
| • Friendly approachable staff. | Dedication of the teachers |
| • Lots of Parent involvement. | Outdoor area good |
| • Care of each individual child. | Pastoral support and singing |
| • How lovely the children are to one another | Rewarding good achievements |
| • Community and cohesion between students across the year groups | |
| • Approachable staff, nurturing atmosphere, cross curricular learning | |
| • Sense of community, students working and playing together. | |
| • Relationships between Parents and staff, the caring nature of adults and the extra mile made to support families. | |

15. Is there anything in particular that you'd change about the school?

Please note that these are individual points, from individual Parents/Carers/families.

<i>Comment from Parent/ Carer</i>	<i>Our Response</i>
<i>Not wear PE kit all day</i>	As you are all aware following COVID restrictions the school took the decision for pupils to come into school in their PE kit on PE days. Most pupils have PE in the afternoon so if they do get hot/sweaty during PE sessions they are not sitting in those clothes all day. The wearing of PE kit all day is an issue that is continually under review.
<i>Disagree with homework for YR & Y1 Less homework, especially Reception</i>	There is a requirement by Government that all pupils should do some form of Homework, even in Reception. Parents/Carers and pupils sign the Homework agreement when they enter school. Thurlton Primary is not a school at which homework dominates home and school life. We accept that not every activity will capture pupil and Parents/Carers' imagination and that weekends and evenings can sometimes be busy. We believe that homework should be enjoyable and manageable for all concerned and that if it becomes a chore/burden/source of conflict it ceases to be a constructive aspect of teaching and learning. We do not specify amounts of time that must be spent on a task, preferring individual pupils and families to set their own routines. Individual teachers are happy to give advice. We hope the pupils are motivated by positive incentives and by the tasks themselves; Pupils are not punished if they fail to complete the work. However discreet homework registers are kept and if a pupil consistently fails to complete and return tasks, this is discussed with the pupil and their Parents/Carers.
<i>Less time for lunch, more time to learn</i>	We view all time in school as learning time: The lunch break is divided into two, eating their lunch and playtime. Eating lunch: Developing independence is a major element of this time, encourage use of cutlery, cutting food, organizing themselves as the order to eat their lunch. Playtime: a time to recover from and prepare for more brain-work , to have fun, relax and play with friends, to decide for themselves within reason what, how and with whom to play, to learn from their self-structured play, to use and practise "social competencies" e.g. negotiation and persuasive language in a real-life context, to learn social skills e.g. sharing, co-operation and how to get on with others. The lunch break is divided into two, with staff supervising children while they are eating their lunch and when they are in the playground/field.
<i>A lunch report each week</i>	This is an individual issue, please speak to the class teacher, we are always happy to support where we can.

<i>Better communication, paper newsletter</i>	We use texts, emails and Social media to inform and communicate with our Parents/Carers. Paper copies of everything sent are available from the Office and you can request from the Office communications via paper copies. If there are other means of communication that might be useful please contact the Office with suggestions.
<i>Encourage more Parents/Carers to join PFA</i>	The PFA are always requesting additional Parents/Carers to join/support the PFA, meetings are advertised and everyone is welcome to join and support the PFA.
<i>Nothing, No thanks, Not really, N/A or left blank (20 parents)</i>	We take this as a compliment and thank you all for your confidence in the school. However we are always looking for ways to improve and develop the school so if at a later date you have thoughts on possible changes please do come and discuss this with Mrs Hambley.
<i>Rainbow bench be reinstated as buddy bench</i>	This is currently being discussed through Class Council and Thurlton Voice (School Council)
<i>Better parking for drop off's</i>	Unfortunately this is an issue that the school is unable to offer suggestions for.

16. In what ways would you like to see the school develop over the next three to five years?

Please note that these are individual points, from individual Parents/Carers/families. However, as you can see certain issues crop up several times



<i>Comment from Parent/Carer</i>	<i>Our Response</i>
<i>Networking and sharing resources/experience with other academy trust schools.</i>	All staff are members of different subject groups where good practice and ideas are shared across schools. We are currently part of the Sports Cluster and we work with other cluster schools on a regular basis.
<i>Re-instate activity mornings</i>	As you are all aware our main priority is the health, safety and well-being of pupils, staff, Parents/Carers and the wider Thurlton community. We will invite Parents/Carers into school for different events as soon as possible following guidance from the Government/County
<i>Keep as welcoming as we are now Keep being friendly and supportive</i>	These elements of Thurlton Primary will NOT change.
<i>After school clubs for Reception, swimming to start at earlier age</i>	Following staff discussion we made the decision for After School Clubs to be limited to KS1 and KS2 pupils but this is constantly under review. Swimming is only part of the KS2 curriculum but this year, Year 2 pupils have started swimming sessions.
<i>Be the best of all schools</i>	Staff, pupils and many Parents/Carers already feel that we are!!!
<i>Separate Y6 teacher to prepare for high school</i>	This is constantly under review, though is dependent of cohort numbers.
<i>Retention of staff</i>	Over the past 4 years Thurlton Primary has had a stable staff. Unfortunately staff decide to move for several different reasons, currently staff who have left have moved to new challenges in different sectors of education.

<p><i>Introduce Forest School/ Outdoor Learning Area</i></p> <p><i>Outdoor planting and wildlife area</i></p>	<p>The outdoors/Outdoor Classroom is used as a learning area. Staff use the outdoor areas to support topics and learning as much as possible.</p> <p>Forest Schools training for staff is under discussion for future training.</p> <p>Plans are currently being developed to create a garden area with a green-house, raised planters and begin a gardening club to encourage pupils developing gardening skills.</p>
<p><i>Grow in size and receive better Ofsted rating</i></p> <p><i>Increase pupil numbers</i></p> <p><i>Increase teachers, split classes by year groups</i></p>	<p>We are currently awaiting an Ofsted Inspection, we are hoping that we will be graded at least GOOD.</p> <p>Parents/Carers are the best advocates to increase numbers, as a school are raising our profile continually within the community and often further afield but positivity and praise from Parents/Carers is the best marketing tool for any school.</p>
<p><i>Climbing wall</i></p>	<p>We currently have a climbing wall as part of our large outdoor play equipment. We are hoping to increase our outdoor play equipment, at which time pupils will be involved in deciding what equipment they would like.</p>
<p><i>More funding to improve premises</i></p>	<p>This is a discussion the school will have with the Trust</p>



17. Any other comments:

- Really happy with what Mrs Hambley and her team are doing with my child
- We love Thurlton Primary School, I'm positive applications will rocket after a new Ofsted, but if lots more attend I hope it will stay the same close knit school.
- More staff availability to make Mrs Hambley available would work better too.
- Really pleased with how my child has settled in, which is due to the teachers making it a place he wants to be.
- Thank you for supporting my child's transition into Rabbit Class
- Thank you so much for helping my child settle in and make him feel welcome.
- .Really happy with the progress my child has made and the confidence she has gained. We were made to feel very safe during COVID and lockdown.
- Thank you for all you do, you are all astonishing, we couldn't be happier

Thank you to everyone who took the time to complete our survey and for your honesty as to what is going well and areas which we need to improve. The contents of this survey has given us as a staff a huge boost of confidence and demonstrate that Parents/Carers are happy with the school and with what the school is offering.



Next steps – acting upon the comments in the survey:

We have responded to the points raised in the survey and those responses detail many of the actions we will be taking to develop Thurlton Primary School.

To summarise those actions:

- We will continue with the development of the outdoor areas, Forest Schools and the Friendship bench
- We will continue to provide After-School and lunch time clubs and investigate options for additional clubs.
- We will continue to market the school to increase the number of pupils we have in the school.

We can promise all Parents/Carers that we will continue to work very hard every day to maintain our high standards. We will continue to work hard to develop and provide a curriculum which is broad, balanced, enriching and exciting and at the same time providing our pupils with a good grounding in reading, writing and maths.

We want our pupils to be confident in English and Maths and to develop their self-confidence and social skills. We want all our pupils to develop to their full potential, developing personal talents and skills in whatever area of the curriculum those talents lie.

We will continue to work closely with Parents/Carers and the local community.